

Message Text

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47

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 ARA-11 BNDD-05 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-12

JUSE-00 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-10 TRSE-00 USIA-12

NSC-10 SCI-06 OMB-01 DODE-00 PA-03 PRS-01 SS-15 RSR-01

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R 151927 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0152

UNCLAS PARIS 13440

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR

SUBJ.: FRENCH PRESS AND NARCOTICS, APRIL 7- MAY 14

DEPARTMENT PASS BNDD FOR PRICE

1. MAJOR STORY PAST FIVE WEEKS WAS FIRST HEARING IN PARIS COURT MAY 7 OF LIBEL SUIT BROUGHT BY WEALTHY GAULLIST POLITICIAN MARCEL FRANCISCI AGAINST TIME MAGAZINE, WHICH IN ISSUE OF SEPTEMBER 4, 1972 DESCRIBED FRANCISCI AS ONE OF KINGPINS OF NARCOTICS TRAFFIC IN FRANCE. HEARINGS IN CASE RESUMED MAY 14.

2. AFTER FIRST COURT SESSION, RIGHT- WING PARIS DAILY AURORE HEADLINED ITS REPORT OF HEARING: " UNRELIABLE DISCLOSURES". STORY ASKED IF " NARCOTICS MAFIA" EXISTS IN FRANCE. " IS TRAFFIC IN HANDS OF BIG WHEELS? A RECENT REPORT FROM U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES SAID SO, AND GAVE NAMES. THESE REVELATIONS APPEARED SENSATIONAL AT THE TIME, BUT YESTERDAY' S HEARING REDUCED THE MATTER TO ITS REAL PROPORTIONS. IN FACT, NOTHING HAS BEEN PROVEN." LEFT- OF- CENTER LE MONDE' S ACCOUNT RECALLED SPEECH BY ILLINOIS REPRESENTATIVE MURPHY TO HOUSE MARCH 15 IN WHICH HE SAID AN AMERICAN AGENT TOLD HIM " WHEN WE MENTIONED FRANCISCI TO FRENCH POLICE, THEY DIDN' T WANT TO LISTEN. THEY WERE SHIVERING. UNCLASSIFIED

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FRANCISCI IS UNTOUCHABLE". PROBLEM, SAID LE MONDE, IS THAT " WITNESSES, INCLUDING BNDD AGENTS, WERE UNRESERVED IN THEIR PRAISE OF MAGNIFICENT COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO POLICE FORCES" (FRENCH AND AMERICAN). SEVERAL PAPERS REPORTED THAT, AFTER MAY 7 HEARING, KEYSTONE PHOTOGRAPHER WAS ATTACKED BY FRANCISCI' S BROTHERS, WHO ALSO STOLE HIS CAMERA.

3. WEEKLY L' EXPRESS MAY 7 CARRIED LONG REPORT FROM SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT IN NEW YORK AND RIO QUOTING NEW YORK ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY THAT 60 TO 70 PER CENT OF HEROIN CONSUMED IN U. S. STILL COMES FROM FRANCE. HALLE DISCLOSED THAT FRENCH GANGSTER ANDRE CONDEMIN, WHOM FRENCH POLICE BELIEVED DEAD, IS ACTUALLY LIVING IN MEXICO UNDER NAME MARIO DENIZ AND IS CONSIDERED BY BNDD AS BIGGEST OPERATIONAL HEROIN TRAFFICKER BETWEEN EUROPE AND AMERICA.

4. L' EXPRESS, APRIL 19, CARRIED REPORT FROM PIERRE SALINGER (NOW MEMBER OF MAGAZINE STAFF) IN NEW YORK THAT SPECIAL NEW YORK POLICE SQUAD, CREATED TO INFILTRATE DRUG CIRCLES UP TO " BIG WHEELS", HAS BEEN SO SUCCESSFUL THAT NEW YORK UNDERWORLD IS NOW PANICKY.
IRWIN

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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